

February 20, 2017

Members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Mary Cecchinato and I am submitting testimony in favor of HB 5741, An Act Concerning Sober Living Homes.

I am encouraging you to vote in favor of HB 5741. Sober houses are a great resource for people working to recover from drugs or alcohol addiction, but only if they are run by people who can provide the proper support and resources. My family has been affected by drug addiction over the past 3 years. We have lost one family member to a drug over dose and another has been helped by outpatient services. My family members both suffered from depression and social and emotional imbalances.

If passed this bill will require sober houses to:

Register with the state Department of Public Health.

Register as a business in the city or town they are in.

Have naloxone (Narcan)available in the house if any person living there has a history of opioid addiction.

Provide training in the administration of naloxone to all tenants if any person living there has a history of opioid addiction.

Losing our family member at a young age has really affected each and every one of us and I do not want others to have experience this loss. Please consider passing this bill to help save lives.

Sincerely

Mary Cecchinato

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